

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

Please cancel claims 1-2, and add the following new claims 3-9, before calculating the filing fee.

Sub B3
A12
3. (New) A contact assembly for supplying electrical power to a microelectronic workpiece during electrochemical processing of the microelectronic workpiece, the contact assembly comprising:
an electrical contact for providing an electrically conductive connection between the contact assembly and the microelectronic workpiece; and
a yieldable sealing member proximate the electrical contact for bearing against the surface of the microelectronic workpiece to form a seal thereagainst which inhibits entry of processing fluid through a barrier which is defined between said yieldable sealing member and the surface of the microelectronic workpiece.

4. (New) A contact assembly as claimed in claim 3 wherein said yieldable sealing member includes a rim portion for engaging the surface of the microelectronic workpiece and forming a sealing contact therebetween.

Sub B4
5. (New) A contact assembly as claimed in claim 4 wherein said electrical contact is recessed with respect to the rim portion of the yieldable sealing member, and said yieldable sealing member is adapted for deforming to enable the electrical contact to contact the surface of the microelectronic workpiece.

6. (New) A contact assembly as claimed in claim 5 wherein the rim portion of the yieldable sealing member is adapted to splay outward when said yieldable sealing member deforms during contact with the surface of the microelectronic workpiece.